GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4272
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2003
CENTRAL STATE AGRICULTURAL FARMS
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Central State Agricultural Farms in the country, location-wise;

(b) the total income of Central State Agricultural Farms of Karnataka State during the last three years;

(c) the reasons for running in losses of these Central State Agricultural Farms; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the income of the farms?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): The State Farms Corporation of India manages eleven Central State Farms in the country atSuratgarh, Sardargarh and Jetsar in Rajasthan, Aralam in Kerala, Raichur in Karnataka, Hisar inHaryana, Bahraich and Raebareli in Uttar Pradesh, Chengam in Tamil Nadu and Kokilabari and Barpeta in Assam.

(b): The Central State Farm at Raichur in Karnataka incurred net loss of Rs.194.38 lakhs during1999-2000, Rs.210.53 lakhs during 2000-01 and Rs.140.85 lakhs during 2001-2002.

(c): The reasons for losses include, inter alia, unfavourable weather conditions, inadequate irrigation facilities, growth in staff expenses, low conversion of produce into seeds, long collection period for receivables, shortage of working capital, increase in the interest burden on loans and advances etc.

(d): The steps taken by the State Farms Corporation of India to increase income/reduce lossesinclude inter alia increasing area under high value crops, adopting advanced scientific agricultural practices, streamlining marketing operations, optimizing manpower requirement through implementation of voluntary retirement./separation scheme, reducing unviable activities etc.